



AWR 147 Rail Car Incident Response

The Rail Car Incident Response course is an eight-hour, awareness level training program developed to educate rural emergency responders on freight rail car incidents involving hazardous materials.

Because most freight rail traffic traverses rural areas, it is important that rural responders, especially those in resource-limited areas, understand the dangers and unique hazards these incidents present. Although safeguards are in place to prevent hazardous materials from causing harm under normal transportation, storage, handling and use, if any of these safeguards are circumvented or removed, there is the potential for great harm. Due to the variety and volume of materials that can be involved in a freight rail car incident, it is imperative that first responders be well-trained.

Through this course, participants will gain an understanding of potential hazards at a train derailment, the properties of specific chemicals, and various incident control, confinement and containment mitigation techniques. Upon completion of this course, participants should be better prepared to respond to a freight rail car incident without endangering the health and safety of the responders.

Key elements of the course:

- Recognizing the chemical being transported, and the manner in which the chemical must be considered in an emergency situation;
- Identifying the design, construction, components and markings of rail tank cars;
- Determining damage to the car and the potential hazard to people, property and the environment;
- Recognizing possible mitigation strategies for breached freight cars;

- Managing the incident;
- Identifying federal, state and private sector resources available to assist in the response effort.

This course also addresses:

- Application of the D.E.C.I.D.E. decision-making process
- Characteristics of the rail/freight industry
- Key regulations regarding rail car incidents
- Basic chemical terminology pertinent to freight rail car incidents
- Application of the Incident Command System (ICS) in freight rail car incidents
- Review of specific freight rail car incident case studies

This course supports the strategic goals of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 – National Preparedness, the National Preparedness Goal, and the Target Capabilities List in the areas of Planning, Interoperable Communications, Information Sharing & Collaboration, CBRNE Detection, Risk Analysis, Critical Infrastructure Protection, On-site Incident Management, Emergency Operations Center Management, Worker Health & Safety, Public Safety & Security, Animal Health Emergency Support, Firefighting Operations/Support, WMD/ Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination, Citizens Protection: Evacuation and/or In-Place Protection, Emergency Public Information and Warning, and Structural Damage, Assessment & Mitigation.

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Provider:	Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium
Min/Max enrollment:	Min. 20/Max 40
Length:	8 hours (Direct Delivery)
Level of Training:	Awareness
Format:	Instructor-led Training
Course Number:	AWR 147
Prerequisites:	- Knowledge and awareness of the National Incident Management System - U.S. citizenship